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Concern

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Cover Photo

"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things . . ." So wrote the Psalmist (119:18).

That might be the prayer of CONCERN's cover kids, or of thousands of Methodist youth still enjoying the glories of summer, with its camps and conferences and pleasure trips. Certainly it is a worthy prayer for those fortunate ones who meet next week in the big National Convocation of Methodist Youth.

On mountain tops and in city streets, at vesper point and by the lake, at home and on the job—there are wonderful things to see. Our problem is, we are blinded by busy-ness.

So let us pray, "Open thou mine eyes."

Ou est le Convocation?

The advanced among CONCERN's subscribers may recognize that headline as good Methodist French for "Where is the Convocation?"

Director LeRoy King and the office staff preparing for the National Convocation of Methodist Youth (August 22-26) toss this phrase around to give vent to feelings of frustration. Do you have any idea how many details there are to be thought of in preparation for a meeting of 5,000 people? Whether you will be a delegate or interested observer, you should know that meetings like the one at Purdue this summer don't just happen.

Were you ever in charge of getting enough hot dogs for the MYF or MSM wiener roast, or were you ever responsible for a worship service for a big church group, or have you been in charge of getting enough beds for a week-end conference? Well, multiply the number of people at the wiener roast by about 500, add the problem of finding them all a place to sleep for a week, and consider that their worship services are to be different from any they have known before, subtract 15 times the promised help that doesn't show up and multiply by the number of telephone poles between Timbuctoo and Hong Kong, and you have approximately the number of problems we're trying to cope with! *Oo Oo, ou est le Convocation?*

Delegates, we know it doesn't matter to you that the rooms you're assigned to don't get recorded on the record books themselves, or that the registration blanks and notices that you've received about the meeting have to be mailed or that the facts booklet you read and the program booklet you go by and the follow-up booklet you will use when you get home, and the devotional material you'll use while you're there, have to be written; that the rooms your groups meet in have to be assigned; the packets that you'll get at the meeting have to be stuffed; or that the Convocation song book has to be compiled or that the worship and evening programs have to be conceived, written, and rehearsed, or that the Convocation exhibit has to be planned, or that the counseling, preparation and follow-up, finance, evening program, discussion group, recreation, and directing committees have to meet, or that—

What, LeRoy? Yes, I'm working on it now. Yes, I think it will be ready. O. K., I'll stop this nonsense.

Just thought I'd tell these folks that we're here. They will enjoy the Convocation and all the reports from it.

Coming, LeRoy! Oh well, *c'est la vie!*

—R. T.

Concern

Address: Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn.
Editor, this issue: Jameson Jones
Editor: LeRoy King
Associate Editor: Richard Thompson
Business Manager: Louise Sparks
Circulation Manager: Loretta Stevens
Artist: Jimmy McLean

Member: Associated Church Press

Concern is published every other week by the National Conference of Methodist Youth, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn. Richard Thompson, president; Jeff Campbell, vice president; Jean Stevenson, recording secretary; Kenneth Thompson, Jr., financial secretary.

The editorial policy of Concern as set by the National Conference of Methodist Youth is the Social Creed of The Methodist Church, adopted by the General Conference and printed in The Discipline.

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Entered as second class matter September 12, 1945, at the post office at Nashville, Tennessee, under the Act of March 2, 1879. Subscription price: one year, $1; renewal, $1; foreign $1.50.

The front page

SOME OF THE STORIES THAT MADE HEADLINES DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS.

◆ **The "Spirit of Geneva" is apparently** pointing to calmer days ahead in world affairs. After top men of the big four nations met at Geneva, peace talk filled the air in many countries. Generally, these conclusions about the Geneva meeting: (1) after ten years, direct communication was established among heads of government; (2) yet, the Russians showed no signs of changing their position on the real issues that divide the East and West; and (3) President Eisenhower presented the American desire for peace with real sincerity and depth of feeling, which made a deep impression on peoples and nations thinking about Geneva.

◆ **After Geneva, attention shifted** back to the Far East, where conflicts between the U.S. and Red China have come very close to starting an all-out war. As August started, ambassadors representing the U.S. and Red China met in neutral Geneva to talk over practical problems. Basic problems between the two nations: diplomatic recognition of Red China, admission of Red China into the United Nations, the status of Formosa (held by Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist Chinese), general cease-fire in the Formosa area, and status of prisoners. Red China holds 51 Americans, at least, and claims that the U.S. is detaining large numbers of Chinese against their will. This the U. S. denies. Possible outgrowth of these Geneva talks: a face-to-face meeting of Red China's Chou En-lai and the U. S.'s John Foster Dulles.

◆ **Congress adjourned — until January,** it hopes. Some of the key actions this session: Senate ratified mutual defense treaty with Nationalist China; appropriated $2,703,000,000 for foreign aid; appropriated $31,900,000,000 for defense; passed compulsory reserve bill; refused to cut taxes; failed to pass anyone's version of a highway bill; raised the minimum wage to $1 an hour; could not agree on a school construction bill but in the final hours of its session passed a controversial housing bill to provide 45,000 new units by next July 31. Both houses rejected the President's plan for a nuclear-powered ship to travel around the world as an exhibit on atoms-for-peace. And neither Hawaii nor Alaska achieved statehood.

NEWS

So quiet 'round here

—Manning in St. Louis Globe-Democrat

◆ **After 2½ years in prison, 11** happy U.S. airmen were released by Red China and made the long trip home. They all denied the "spy" charges on which they were held.

◆ **Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby resigned** as secretary of Health, Education and Welfare in order to return to private affairs in Texas, especially to her ailing husband. Air Force Secretary Harold E. Talbott resigned under pressure after his outside business connections came under Senate investigation.

◆ **The last week in July saw 1,037** new cases of polio in the U.S., an increase of 27 per cent from the week before. A public health service official said the rise was "about exactly what could have been expected" for the season. For the polio "disease year," starting April 1, some 5,467 cases were reported through July, compared with 7,630 for the same period in 1954.

Methodists bring more refugees

When the U.S.S. General Langfitt docked in New York, aboard were 1,243 refugees including the 106th Methodist-sponsored refugee to enter the U. S. under the Refugee Relief Act.

The Langfitt brought the first full shipload of European refugees to come to this country since the Act became effective, making a total of 30,000 refugees admitted since August 1953.

On the ship were ten family units, totaling 24 persons, holding Methodist assurances. They will be resettled in nine states. Texas, Iowa, California, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Illinois will welcome one family each; three families will live in New York. State. They all come from camps in Germany, but six nationalities are represented in the group. There are seven children among the families.

As of July 1, a total of 700 assurances covering 1550 persons had been filed through the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief. MCOR announced that another shipload of refugees is due to arrive from Europe this month, with similar loads being scheduled at frequent intervals thereafter.

Methodists hope to find sponsors for 5000 refugees before the Relief Act expires in December 1956. "All assurances should be filed by early spring if they are to be processed before the act expires," says Miss Elizabeth M. Lee, secretary of promotion for the Methodist program. Interested groups should write her immediately at 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11.

'Beer-brawls' threaten baseball

First, radio threatened the existence of the great American game of baseball, then TV, and now it's the "beer-brawls."

According to two veteran newspaper reporters, clanking beer cans in the ball parks may be sounding the death knell of organized baseball. Jack Mabley writes in the *Chicago Daily News*:

"The drunkenness, fighting, and hoodlumism at the baseball parks during Sunday double-headers has become too serious to continue to ignore.

"Comiskey Park and Wrigley Field become literally the biggest saloons in the world.

"Brawling is inevitable in the emotion-charged atmosphere.

"It is becoming worse.

"The managements of the ball clubs have done nothing to curb the drunkenness. A widespread riot is a serious threat . . .

"Their present policy will drive more and more decent people away from the ball parks."

Money at the Root

Comments Godfrey Sperling, Jr., in the *Christian Science Monitor*, "At the root of this evil is money."

A clue as to why the Cub and White Sox managements are batting .000 so far as searching for a solution to their problem is provided by Sperling's arithmetic:

1. Last year 3,785,000 paper cups of beer were sold to customers of Cub and White Sox games.

2. The ball club takes 12 cents out

The Gelbowitz family are welcomed in New York by MCOR pier worker Tatiana Kusovac (left). Mr. and Mrs. Gelbowitz and daughters Josephine and Caroline are Roumanian. They will settle in Perry, Iowa. (See story.)

of the 35 cents the customer pays.

3. Beer means about $450,000 annually to Chicago baseball owners.

Concludes Sperling, "Too much attention to this revenue on the part of the owners could cause them to overlook a not very hidden depreciation in the asset of good will on which their business is based."

Kansas City Takes Action

Responding to growing complaints from the fans, Kansas City councilmen are presently studying a proposed city ordinance that would stiffen fines against those carrying liquor into the Athletic's Municipal Stadium. Individuals who become intoxicated at the park would also be subject to increased penalties.

The *Kansas City Star* reports that ball club officials had previously placed a ban on "outside" beverages coming into the park. Said the team's vice president Parke Caroll to the *Star*, "We are only trying to obey the law and to maintain safety in the park." The law forbids a person from carrying any type of intoxicating beverages into premises licensed for the sale of such beverages.

The city might further insure safety in the park if the ban were extended to sales of beer *inside* the stadium.

Work camps meet needs of people

Not only the Christian churches—national and local—are showing interest in "the training of young people to serve by serving" through the work camp program, but the United Nations is interested also.

Through the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) it is supporting hundreds of work camps this summer, and in every part of the world. In a special report on this activity, entitled "69,000 of Today's Youth," UNESCO gives reasons for the program:

"Two thirds of the people of the world live in poverty and want. One hundred and fifty million families in underdeveloped areas need better housing. At least one half of the world's population does not know how to read or write.

"A young person reading these words may wonder what he or she can do about problems of such great magnitude. According to a recent report issued by UNESCO more than 69,000 young people participating in 1,800 international work camp projects are finding in this activity one constructive answer.

Delegates from various parts of the world attended the 23rd International Sunday School Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio the end of last month. Two of the many thousand show how they traveled half way around the world to be present. They are Miss Leonara Flores of the Philippines and Sham S. S. Albert of Pakistan. Convention theme: "Home and Church—Teach Christ Now!"

"Their efforts are world wide, with vast projects being undertaken in Asia particularly. Fifty per cent of the youth who participated in work camp projects last year worked in India on rural reconstruction and village development schemes, digging wells, building roads, improving sanitation and irrigation. In the Philippines, international youth teams helped UNESCO experts on technical assistance missions.

"In Europe, while organizations gave particular attention to the training of work camp leaders, some 6,955 young people joined international voluntary teams building houses for improving housing conditions for workers and refugees.

"In Africa, work camps spread into

new areas—the Cameroons, Egypt, and Tunisia. In Latin America all camps were connected with the programs of fundamental education. In addition, 6,814 young people assisted in some kind of construction work or landscaping of public and private institutions such as hospitals, sanitoriums and schools. Some 77 camps were organized to assist in the construction of youth centers, playgrounds and sports fields. In 36 camps some 2,527 volunteers assisted in reconstruction work after earthquakes in Greece and Algeria, avalanches in Austria and floods in India.

Established in 1920

"Work camps were first established in 1920 to assist in the then postwar reconstruction work. They served in the same capacity following World War II, helping to reconstruct from the rubble caused by bombs. Though the work camp method has changed in character considerably, and a certain evolution is taking place in the work camp movement as the postwar emergencies have receded, the over-all purpose remains the same—to build international understanding by bringing youth from various countries together for a few weeks to work on a common task.

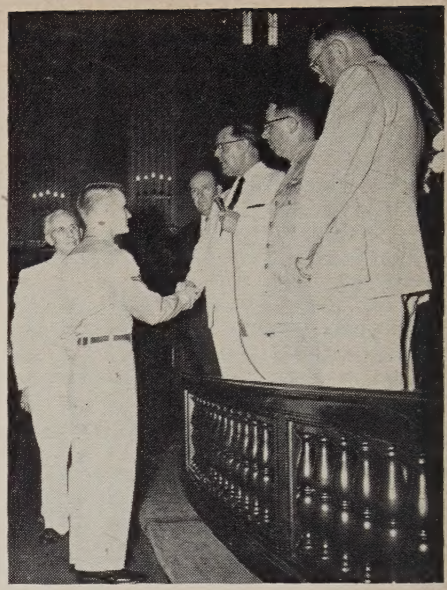
"Many of tomorrow's leaders in the battle against hunger, disease and ignorance will be found among the work campers of today."

Methodists spend summer in Cuba

The last day of June, some 85 persons met at Colegio Pinson in Camaguey, Cuba to participate in the third orientation center for caravans and work camps to serve this summer throughout the island of Cuba.

Three years ago the group was only 35 in number, but now has more than doubled. Included are 12 students from the States to serve in the annual Cuba work camp of the Methodist Student Movement; eight Cuban students to serve in the first all Cuban work camp; eight young people from the States, eight Cuban young people and four counselors who would form four caravan teams; ten young people and two adults from Wesley Memorial Methodist in High Point, N. C. who came to work in the Leland Memorial church in Havana; and 20 Cuban young people who gave their time to help run the conference center for the summer. In addition were about ten adults from Cuba and the States who served as faculty, and two LA-3's, Carol English and Joyce Hill.

Program for the orientation center consisted of talks and discussion groups on the Christian faith. Talks



Airman Third Class Jack E. Loughner is the 100th serviceman to be received into membership of Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church in Washington, D. C. From left, Rev. Vaughan Moore, associate pastor of the church; Airman Loughner; D. Stewart Patterson, executive secretary of the Methodist Commission on Chaplains; Dr. Albert P. Shirkey, pastor of the church; Chaplain (Lt. Col.) George E. Wilson, chaplain at Sampson Air Force Base where Loughner was given religious instruction; and Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Charles I. Carpenter, chief of chaplains, U. S. Air Force. The Methodist Commission on Chaplains, in cooperation with Mount Vernon Place church, has developed a plan whereby any military person who has no home church, but desires to have membership in The Methodist Church, may be received by a Methodist chaplain and the membership sent to Mount Vernon Place church.

were given by Rev. Angel Fuster, pastor at Santa Clara, Cuba. Rev. Sam L. Laird, coordinator of the Cuban work camp, Rev. Victor Rankin, missionary at Camaguey, and Rev. Richard G. Milk, director of the Escuela Agricolay Industrial at Preston, worked with the two work camp groups. Rene Pino of the Youth Department in Nashville led sessions on basic principles of group work. Orientation to the people and country of Cuba was guided by Miss Sara Fernandez, missionary, and other missionaries and Cuban pastors. The entire program was directed by Miss Norka Feijo, youth director, and Rev. Luis Diaz de Arce, executive secretary of the Cuba Conference board of education.

The 12 North American students were assigned to Preston. Working with students of the school, they have been roofing the new chapel at the school, repairing the road for year-round travel, leading vacation Bible schools, and doing many odd jobs. The eight Cuban students were assigned to Camaguey, where St. Luke's church has bought an old house in one of the underprivileged areas of the city. The work camp is remodeling the house and grounds to serve as a mission station and community center.

The four caravan teams are visiting churches from Oriente to Havana and conducting the typical caravan program. Other Cuban young people at the center remained to help in the summer conference and institute program.

Those who work in Cuba say that many Cuban young people are won to Christ each year as a result of the work camp and caravan program.

Survey shows why church loses youth

Boredom with programs that offer little or no challenge to their skill and interests is the chief reason why teenagers and young adults leave the church.

Recently the National Council of Churches interviewed 605 youth, heard 32 per cent of the youth and 25 per cent of the young adults say they dropped out because, "I just lost interest in the program." All had previously been active in church youth groups.

Other reasons given for leaving church programs include marriage and family responsibilities, and conflicts with hours of employment or school activities.

Only one per cent of the young people and two per cent of the young adults reported they dropped out because they were forced to attend either church or Sunday school as youngsters. A number of returned service men and women said they had not gone back to the church because they felt they didn't fit in after several years' absence.

The young people suggested several ways in which churches can hold their interest, including well planned programs which are intelligently adapted to local needs; capable and sincere leadership; friendliness to newcomers and activities in which all members can participate.

The survey was conducted in 188 churches in 40 different areas. It is part of a larger study now under way.

U Nu, Prime Minister of Burma, paid a state visit to the U. S. last month. While here, he visited the U. N. and met the Secretariat's three Burmese staff members. He wears a 4-H tie clasp given him by Agriculture Secretary Benson.

VIEWS

The prayers of many

As most of you read another issue of CONCERN, it's just another week when you do just the same old things.

But to some of you, it's the threshold of what can be, and we pray will be, an unforgettable time of your life.

Sometime between now and Monday, almost 5,000 Methodist youth, students and their adult leaders will finish the last flurry of packing, grab up this week's CONCERN to read on the train or bus, and head for Purdue University. That's the site of the National Convocation of Methodist Youth.

If you are among the 5,000, Godspeed. If not, spend a few minutes thinking about the Convocation. Its theme: Our Christian Witness in the World of Struggle. Although various aspects of the theme will be discussed and re-discussed at Purdue next week, "our Christian witness" really begins at home.

Thanks to Methodist Information and the Radio and Film Commission of The Methodist Church, you can follow the progress of your delegate and high spots of the meeting in press, on radio and TV. These church agencies have arranged a vast coverage for the Convocation.

You can focus your attention along with pastors, laymen, bishops, and church leaders of other denominations on a Midwestern university campus where brotherhood, Christian friendship, love, and the presence of Christ are far more than phrases from a preacher's Sunday morning sermon.

Mechanical details and planning of program for this significant event have meant tedious hours of work for many, many people. Whether or not you are a delegate, you can rejoice that the Convocation is at hand. For if you are a delegate, you will receive directly the fruit of this labor. And if you are not going yourself, the enthusiasm with which John or Mary returns to your church or campus will make you grateful to those who have had any part in making this meeting possible. For John and Mary will have a new vision of the church at work and the importance of young people making a Christian witness in today's world.

There is an air of expectation in many parts of the nation because of Purdue. The prayers of many people are being offered to God, that this will be truly a significant week.

Some 5,000 people are on the verge of learning, as they have never known before, what it means to witness for Christ in a world of struggle. And what can come from 5,000 lives, dedicated to witnessing for Christ in this struggling world . . .

Can we help but add our prayers to those of the people who are directly concerned with this great meeting?

Godspeed, Convocation delegates; there are prayers riding with you—the prayers of many.

—R. T.

Three Items

Whether you go to Purdue or not, you will want to see the reports of the big event. Three items will be prepared: the 16 September issue of CONCERN, a news report; a printed follow-up booklet summarizing speeches and the meaning of the Convocation; and a filmstrip portraying the drama and thrills. Watch CONCERN for facts on how to get these reports.

On a wide circuit

Ideas for peace from you?

Announced some weeks ago was the plan of an advertising agency in Grand Rapids, Mich.—the Jaqua Co.—to devote a whole day to a meeting of its entire staff to consider, "What ideas have we for building world peace?"

The group was to meet and "throw out" ideas. It might be well for *every group in every church and school to stop for a whole day and consider peace ideas.*

Well, the Jaqua Co. "board of strategy" met and discussed ideas. At the close of the meeting it sent these suggestions to Harold Stassen, Eisenhower aide, who has asked for just such counsel:

- Peace must be made as dynamic (and dramatic) as is war.
- U. S. Government should set up a "West Point of Peace."
- The "Voice of America" should be changed to the "Voice of Peace."
- National barriers should be broken down between peoples who have like interest and who seek peace.
- There should be written and published an "international history of the world," free from all national bias.
- There should be projected a world-wide advertising campaign for peace, "based on statements of ordinary people as to what they are thinking about peace."
- Half an hour should be devoted to programs for peace each day on all broadcasting stations.
- There should be an annual day of prayer for peace.

We are quite sure that the men who gave their day to this "planning for peace" have a new understanding of the problems involved, and a greater desire to reach mankind's long-desired goal of a warless world. And we are sure such far-reaching results will come whenever a group of people sit around a table to pool and share their ideas.

The World Council of Churches has suggested a program for world peace which (with the above) would make a good starting point for any group discussion of the subject. Among its main suggestions: a world-wide ban on the use of any atomic bombs for warfare; a drastic reduction in *all* armaments; that nations continually counsel together and confer (as in the UN) without rancor, malice, or hatred; that statesmen and newsmen (of all nations) be required to refrain from words, written or spoken, that might incite hatred or misunderstanding; that churchmen, on both sides, freely and frequently visit one another; and that Christian laymen serve their faith through technical services to underdeveloped peoples under UN agencies.

Reid

Chester Bowles, in *The Atlantic Monthly,* says that the struggle for democracy will be won or lost, not on the world's battlefields but in rice fields, malaria swamps, river valleys, and assembly lines. And he suggests that America say sincerely to the needy nations:

"For generations the West took from the colonial areas vast wealth to develop its own high living standards. This flow of wealth from East to West came at a time when the moral standards of the world were different from those of today. Recognizing this change and recognizing also the great needs of the new underdeveloped nations of the world, we now propose to make available to you loans, grants, and technical assistance, as part of a major five-year plan to speed your development. We ask nothing in return except your dedicated efforts in behalf of your own people to create rising living standards and expanding opportunities under free governments."

What can you and your group add to these—and suggest to your government?

—By W. W. Reid

Time now to plan fall action project

CUES

Has your church begun yet to make plans for this year's Fall Action Project in the Youth Emphasis of The Methodist Church?

If not, now is the time.

The Youth Department in Nashville is making several suggestions for MYF activities in the project. The suggestions are listed in a new leaflet, "Toward World Christian Community," (no. 2440-B). The projects are for seniors and older youth, some of them designed for conference, district or subdistrict levels.

Two Fall Action Project packets, one for intermediates, another for seniors and older youth, are now available from the Service Department, Box 871, Nashville 2. Price is 25 cents each.

Here are some of the projects that are suggested for local MYF's:

- Select a school, hospital or community center listed in "Supply List" (no. 2278-B); have a work party or "shower" to make or collect materials; send them to the chosen place. Most of the places listed are related to the Methodist Youth Fund.
- Send the spring issue of the Methodist Youth Fund *Bulletin* (which lists projects that get help from the MYFund) to church members in the armed services. Suggest that they visit projects near them.
- Urge each MYF member to make a Disaster Relief Bank. Bring money from the banks to the MYF at Thanksgiving; send money to the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11.
- Encourage church families to use the worship folder "Thanksgiving Worship in the Home" (no. 3066-C). Order from the Service Department, Box 871, Nashville 2. Cost is 30 cents a dozen, $2 per hundred, cash with order.
- Find out if your church can sponsor one or more refugees. Write the Youth Department for a free Refugee Resettlement packet.
- Ask the chairmen of Christian witness and Christian outreach to help members understand the witness of Christian living in all vocations.

All the above activities are for seniors, older youth and their adult workers. Special projects for intermediates are outlined in "Intermediates in the Youth Emphasis (no. 2408-B).

Some projects for districts, subdistricts or conferences include the following:

- Let youth who took part in 1955 mission tours tell of their experiences.
- Set up a peace retreat for youth and adult leaders. See *Ways To Peace* (2396-BC), 20 cents from the nearest Methodist Publishing House.
- Attend the state legislature and talk with legislators about issues of interest to Christian youth.
- Train fellowship teams to emphasize the Methodist Youth Fund. Get churches to use these teams.

Of real value in planning the Fall Action Project — on missions, world peace, and overseas relief, is the September issue of *Roundtable*, now in the mails.

Unless otherwise stated, pamphlets and leaflets referred to may be ordered free from the Service Department, Box 871, Nashville 2. A limited number of free copies of the September *Roundtable* may be obtained by writing the Youth Department, Box 871, Nashville 2.

New filmstrips on relief work

MYF's will want to see and use two new filmstrips on relief work abroad. "A Matter of Fact" and "The Year That Flowered" were just produced by Church World Service, an interdenominational relief agency in which the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief participates.

"A Matter of Fact" is an 80-frame color cartoon sound filmstrip which interprets the "Share Our Surplus" program of the Protestant churches. Under the program, MCOR can supply $20 worth of government surplus foodstuffs to hungry people overseas for every $1 contributed. Running time for the filmstrip is 16 minutes.

"The Year That Flowered" deals with the interdenominational housing project for refugees in Hong Kong. It is an 83-frame sound filmstrip in black

and white. Showing time is 18 minutes.

Both films may be purchased directly from the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11. Purchase price for each is $3. Inquiries should be addressed to Miss Lena Knapp, treasurer.

More groups needed to win older youth

Why not start an older youth group in your church? That is, if you don't already have one.

The Youth Department is asking pastors, commissions on education, adult workers with youth and interested older youth this very question. Any one or all of these can furnish the zip to get a group started.

Older youth are post-high school youth who still feel themselves to be more youth than adult. They have interests peculiar to their age. Some of them are working; some are out of school but not yet working; some are in college; some are newlyweds that have been active in the Methodist Youth Fellowship and feel more at home there; some are in the armed services.

Older youth need to share in study, worship and service in a Christian fellowship; they need to grow in friendship with adults who have a mature Christian faith, and to develop their own vital Christian faith and philosophy of life, and to be guided in making basic decisions and acting upon them.

In the average community, there are about 25 older youth per 1,000 people, according to Wallace Chappell of the Youth Department staff, who is responsible for the department's older youth work. "You can be sure older youth want to be a part of a group that makes a difference," he said.

If you want to start a group in your church, information on how to do it is available from the Youth Department, Box 871, Nashville 2.

Bandung report

Rev. Homer Jack, pastor of the Unitarian church in Evanston, Ill., attended the spring conference of African and Asian nations at Bandung, Indonesia, largely at his own expense, because he thought the conference to be of great significance. He has published a 40-page description and analysis of the conference. Copies are available for 25¢ each from the Board of World Peace, 740 Rush St. Chicago 11.

Friends of CONCERN

CONCERN'S GROWTH IS LARGELY DUE TO THE WORK OF REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER FRIENDS WHO SEND IN SUBSCRIPTIONS. HERE ARE SOME WHO HAVE SENT IN FIVE OR MORE SUBSCRIPTIONS AT A TIME.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A CONCERN REPRESENTATIVE, WRITE FOR A FREE PACKET OF MATERIALS AND HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS. SEND YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO CONCERN, BOX 871, NASHVILLE, 2, TENN.

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Marilyn Kuhn, Ky. 12
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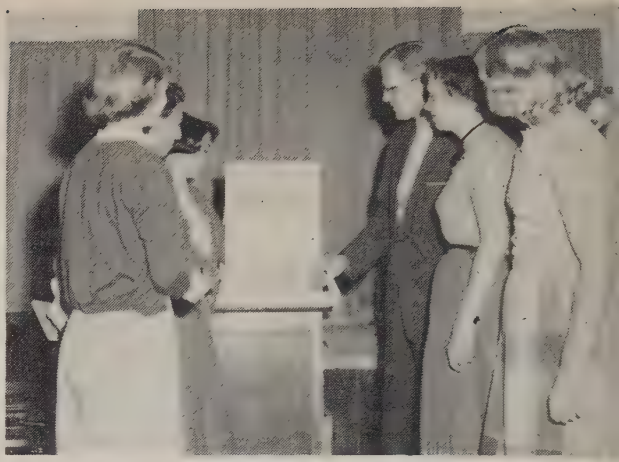
Donald Mays, Ky. 13
Calvin Maas, Calif. 33
Mimi Armstrong, Iowa 30
Charles Niclaysen, Iowa 30
Sylvia Covell, Conn. 10
Darrell Walton, Iowa 11
Finley Eversole, Ala. 13
Calvin Christian, Mont. 8
Merton Seymour, reporting Detroit Conference Youth Assembly 100% CONCERNed 35



Several youth study the "Youth - to - Youth Visitation Evangelism Chart for Christian Witness" under guidance of Nashville staff member Fred Cloud. It was part of the training given youth in the California-Nevada Christian Witness Mission, held July 10-17 in San Francisco.

Donald Haas and Betty Shore talk with Janice Berg in her home about the meaning of Christian commitment. Janice professed faith in Christ and expressed a desire to enroll in the membership training class at Parkside Methodist Church, San Francisco. Other teams of two did visitation work in the California-Nevada mission.

Richard Mazon, Diane Yount and Carol Conway report the results of their census-taking to Fred Cloud, editor of "Roundtable" and "Christian Action." He was instructor in evangelistic methods for the mission. (See story on opposite page.)

Conference mission sparks local planning

Some 30 Methodist youth from northern California and Nevada converged on San Francisco on Sunday afternoon, July 10, to launch a week-long Christian Witness Mission.

Host church was Parkside Methodist. Cooperating in the mission were five other churches: Epworth, Glide Memorial, Park-Presidio, St. Francis, and Temple. Teams of youth from each of these churches visited along with young people from outside the city.

With training received in this conference-sponsored mission, youth will work in many local churches to develop a continuing program of witnessing through witness missions.

In the San Francisco week, two evenings were devoted to making a religious survey around the six participating churches. As a result of 1,329 calls made, 143 prospects were discovered. Wednesday through Friday evenings were spent in visitation evangelistic efforts. Some 51 commitments were secured from 66 prospects interviewed.

Following visitation on Friday evening, the youth made plans for their program of witnessing in other local churches. The mission concluded on Sunday afternoon, July 17, with a period of evaluation and a service of dedication.

Mission director was Rev. Art Thurman, pastor of First church in Reno, Nevada. Leader for the discussions on motives of evangelism was Rev. Joe Pritchard, pastor of Fallon, Nevada. Representative of the general boards of education and evangelism was Rev. Fred Cloud, Nashville, who instructed the youth in methods of evangelism.

Retreat brings perfect attendance

With September comes the retreat season for the MYF, as more and more groups go out for a weekend of fun, inspiration and planning.

The Creston District (Iowa-Des Moines Conference) took two days in mid-summer to retreat at the Lake of Three Fires near Bedford, Iowa. They set a real record for mid-summer: every officer was present, along with all five subdistrict counselors. Included in the group were subdistrict presidents and Christian witness chairmen to help plan for the district-wide Christian witness mission scheduled for fall. Also present and part of the council was Mrs. Richard Seely, secretary of youth work for the district Woman's Society of Christian Service.

The Lenox, Iowa, church provided housing for the group. Youth prepared their own meals, assisted by two parents and two friends.

Officers include John Woolson, president, and Rev. Harold Butts, district counselor. The Creston group highly recommends planning a retreat to any groups that haven't tried one yet.

MYF in action

For almost a year, older youth of Asbury church in El Paso, Texas, have been helping to sponsor a young Methodist minister in Berlin, Germany. To help finance the propect, the group sponsored an ice cream party last month, baked cakes and turned ice cream freezers themselves. An added feature of the evening, the group brought children from Houchen Methodist Settlement in El Paso for free ice cream and cake.

Iowa plans CWM for every church

September 3-11 has been designated by the two conferences of the Des Moines Area as a week for 966 Christian Witness Missions in local churches.

Besides winning youth for Christ, an objective of the missions is to improve local MYF's by planning a three-month program for each and by training adult workers with youth.

"The most revolutionary feature of this Christian Witness Mission," reports area youth director Lou Hilbert, "is that each local MYF will hold its own rally on the final Sunday, beginning in the afternoon and continuing through the evening in the pattern of the usual district rally."

The mission idea began with the area strategy committee and was offically adopted on the floor of each annual conference. It begins Saturday morning, when two youth and one adult from each local church will meet at a central church in the subdistrict for a day of training. A pastors' seminar will also be held at the subdistrict level in preparation for the training of adult workers.

Local churches then will carry the mission forward through the next week, as they make personal contacts with youth in the community. On Sunday evening, a week later, local churches will hold their rallies. All groups are encouraged to give each member an MYF membership card that night.

Motto for the project: "A Christian Witness Mission in every local church." Again, Iowa plans big!

MYF Roundup

◆ **The MYF of Calvary church in** Wichita, Kans. gave a party for the Golden Age group of the church, complete with cookies and punch. Both young and old called the project a real success.

◆ **One of the Methodists at Boys'** Nation in Washington, D. C. last month was Robert Stoner of Kenesaw, Neb. Of 50 Nebraska boys who took an exam on current events and Nebraska government, Robert made the highest grade. Robert is president of the MYF at the Kenesaw church, sings in the church choir, and is one of the Boy Scout leaders. He will be a senior in high school this fall.

◆ **The Boston Area leadership train**ing school has been striving during its 11-year history to develop a strong connectional youth program in New England Methodism by training subdistrict, district and conference officers and counselors. This year the training school will be held August 28-September 2 at Rolling Ridge, North Andover, Mass. Theme: "Using Our Methodist Resources to Undergird the Youth Emphasis." Among leaders is Rev. Fred Cloud of the Editorial Division of the Board of Education, Nashville.

◆ **New Youth Team for Christian** Service in the Minnesota Conference (5 August CONCERN) is composed of Eugene Tate and John Steinhelber, consecrated to the task at annual conference in June.

The 6:30 a.m. arrival of a Methodist Youth Caravan in Hawaii did not keep over 60 youth from Oahu's churches from being on hand to give the guests a welcome — island - style. The banner was prepared by the MYF of Harris Memorial church in Honolulu.

Kentucky MSM holds summer work camp

For two years now, the Methodist Student Movement of Kentucky has been working on a pioneer project of its own: a work camp at Erie School in Olive Hill, Ky.

The school is a project of the woman's Division of Christian Service and at times has been related to the Methodist Youth Fund.

This summer, nine Kentucky students and two from out-of-state colleges spent two weeks at Erie. They moved two sets of playground swings in order to make room for a tennis court, then graded and prepared the ground for a permanent surface. At LeMaster Hall, a new boy's residence, they painted woodwork and laid floors with asphalt tile.

In study periods, the campers considered prayer for a week, then Methodist beliefs. Director of the project was Miss Marie Johnson of the music department at Morehead State College. The state MSM hopes to make the work camp an annual project.

MSM in action

In brief

◆ **John W. Dixon, Jr., an instructor** in art history and the humanities at Emory University at Oxford, Ga., has been named the first executive director of the Faculty Christian Fellowship. Dr. Dixon's office will be organizational center for some 600 independent F. C. F. groups on campuses across the country.

◆ **August 7, student leaders of the** World's YMCA, World's YWCA, and the World's Student Christian Federation met in Paris for a five-day conference to develop policy recommendations for world-wide student work. Some 100 students and faculty from 30 countries participated in the meeting.

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